

To: Phil North/R10/USEPA/US@EPA[]
From: Doug Limpinsel
Sent: Wed 3/31/2010 4:07:40 PM
Subject: Re: Update - Re: Nushagak and Kvichak Smolts
doug_limpinsel.vcf
North.Phil@epamail.epa.gov
north.phil@epa.gov

Also, NOAA marine mammals specialists (pinniped and belugas, bristol bay and pribs,) are providing references with numbers we can use in the effort...

Doug Limpinsel wrote: Phil,

Appreciate the cc...

Short Story, I spoke to our colleagues at the AFSC in Seattle. We will receive Sarah's write up, spread sheet, calculations and cites.

Whether we will be able to reference them as the source is to be determined.

The draft is in review in Auke Bay.

Primary talking points...

"Smolt survival to equate to adult return/escape should be closer 2.8-3.0%"

"Bristol Bay salmon comprise 12% of the Bering Sea salmon stock/population"

Losly stated, about half of the salmon caught and tagged in the Bering Sea were later ld'ed in Bristol Bay watersheds.

North.Phil@epamail.epa.gov wrote:

Hi Guy,

Carol Ann Woody gave me your contact information. I am an ecologist working on the Pebble Mine for the EPA aquatic resources program (often misnamed the wetlands program). I have been sketching out the issues we need to address in the expected upcoming review. I am trying to get a sense of the range of potential loss of smolt emigration given the mine foot print as well as possible chronic small scale spills and catastrophic failure of a large tailings dam. I am looking down stream at marine ecosystems in Bristol Bay, Bering Sea and the North Pacific.

My initial estimates of smolt numbers were based on an ADFG management rule-of-thumb of 10% egg to smolt survival. A recent presentation by Carol Ann Woody suggested that this produces number that are way too high. She suggested I check with you. If you can spare a moment can you give me a little direction in how to estimate reasonable smolt numbers. Is that possible? I am not looking to make a firm prediction. I want to get a ballpark range so that I can get a sense of the downstream effects from loss of forage fish in marine ecosystems. We are trying to figure out if that might be an issue.

Phil

Phillip North
Environmental Protection Agency
Kenai River Center
514 Funny River Road

Soldotna, Alaska 99669
(907) 714-2483
fax 260-5992
north.phil@epa.gov

"To protect your rivers, protect your mountains."

begin:vcard
fn:Doug Limpinsel
n:Limpinsel;Doug
org:NOAA Fisheries - AKR;Habitat Conservation Division
adr;dom::;222 W. 7th Avenue. #43;Anchorage;Ak;99513-7577
email;internet:Doug.Limpinsel@noaa.gov
title:Fisheries Biologist
tel;work:907-271-6379
url:http://www.fakr.noaa.gov/habitat/default.htm
version:2.1
end:vcard